DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* Rs. 12 lakhs approximately.

(b) In another five months.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know how many coolies have been employed in this work?

DEWAN BAHADUR L VENKATAKRISHNAN: It has varied from anything between 700 to 2,000.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know whether this is done on a contractual basis or departmentally?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: They are on petty contracts. There are large numbers of contractors for the work.

Aerodrome.

8. ❋ MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI *(Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad)*: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of expenditure up to 30-10-1121 on the construction of Aerodrome at Trivandrum;

(b) the probable date on which the works connected with the Aerodrome are expected to be completed; and

(c) the estimated cost of the whole work?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* 4·54 lakhs.

(b) End of Vrischigom 1122 M. E.

(c) Rs. 12 lakhs approximately.

Aerodrome at Trivandrum.

9 ❋ MR. P. O. THOMAS: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) when the Aerodrome construction at Trivandrum commenced;

(b) what more time is required for the completion of the same;

(c) whether any contractor is entrusted with any work in respect of the Aerodrome; and

(d) if so, who that contractor is?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* November 1945.

(b) About 5 months.

(c) and *(d)* Yes. A number of contractors are entrusted with the work such as supply and conveyance of materials, spreading and consolidation of materials, laying concrete etc.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: Sir, the answer to part *(d)* of the question is: "Yes. A number of contractors are entrusted with the work such as supply and conveyance of materials, spreading and consolidation of materials, laying concrete, etc." I wanted to know who the contractors were.

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: There was a large number. It was not thought worth while compiling a long list.

SAHIB BAHADUR K. A. MOHAMED *(Quilon* cum *Kottarakara)*: What was the difficulty for enlisting new labourers?

DEWAN BAHADUR L VENKATAKRISHNAN: First of all, we took all the army labourers when they were being disbanded. They worked on it about three weeks and suddenly they disappeared. We did not

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naturally want to have the work stopped in the middle, and so we got the labour from the roads until we were able to organise new labour. As soon as the new labour was organised, these people were sent back to their places.

Departmental Coolies.

10. *MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Engineer has withdrawn to Trivandrum from other Divisions gangs of departmental coolies;

(b) the total number of such coolies so withdrawn from each of the other Divisions respectively; and

(c) the daily wages paid to each of such coolies?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* a few gangs of coolies were directed to work in Trivandrum for the urgent work of improvements to the Aerodrome.

(b) From	Nagercoil Division	...	186
,,	Trivandrum ,,	...	492
,,	Quilon ,,	...	298
,,	Kottayam ,,	...	365
,,	Alwaye ,,	...	182
,,	Water works and Drainage Division	...	31
,,	K. E. P. Division, Kulasekharam Division	...	87
	Total	...	1,641

(c) The usual wages at their own place plus a batta of 7 chs. per cooly per day.

Work establishment personnel.

11. *SAHIB BAHADUR K. A MOHAMED: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that they have drawn all the work establishment personnel and muster roll workers from the different P. W. Divisions of the State for the work in the Aerodrome at Trivandrum; and

(b) whether they are aware that this action of the department has prejudicially affected the different P. W. D. Works in the State?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* No.

(b) No.

Aerodrome at Trivandrum.

12. *MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that road metal stocked on the roadside for road maintenance was transported and utilised for the construction of the Aerodrome at Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the total quantity so transported and used; and

(c) the roads from which they were so diverted?

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